



---

## NORTH KOREA POPULATION ESTIMATES

*A Report Prepared under an Interagency Agreement  
by the Federal Research Division,  
Library of Congress*

December 1985

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT 7

Approved for public release:  
Distribution Unlimited

19960712 022

*Author: Ly Burnham*

*Federal Research Division  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20540-4840*

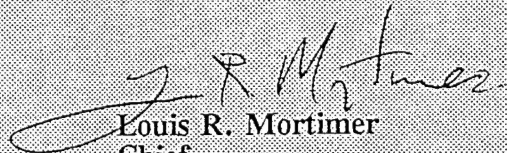
REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.			
1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave Blank)	2. REPORT DATE  December 30, 1985	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED  Final	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE  North Korea Population Estimates		5. FUNDING NUMBERS	
6. AUTHOR(S)  Ly Burnham			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)  Federal Research Division Library of Congress Washington, DC 20540-4840		8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)  N/A		10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES  Prepared under an Interagency Agreement			
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT  Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.		12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)  This statistical study provides information about the population of North Korea. Tables include information on vital statistics; population distribution by age cohort, sex, and marital status; and population distribution by major subdivisions and urban areas.			
14. SUBJECT TERMS  North Korea Demography Society		15. NUMBER OF PAGES  12	
		16. PRICE CODE	
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT  UNCLASSIFIED	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE  UNCLASSIFIED	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT  UNCLASSIFIED	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT  SAR

Dear Reader:

This product was prepared by the staff of the *Federal Research Division* of the *Library of Congress* under an interagency agreement with the sponsoring United States Government agency.

The Federal Research Division is the Library of Congress's primary fee-for-service research unit. At the request of Executive and Judicial branch agencies of the United States Government and on a cost-recovery basis, the Division prepares studies and reports, chronologies, bibliographies, foreign-language abstracts, databases, and other tailored products in hard-copy and electronic media. The subjects researched include the broad spectrum of social sciences, physical sciences, and the humanities.

*For additional information on obtaining the research and analytical services of the Federal Research Division, please call 202-707-9905, fax 202-707-9920, via Internet [frd@mail.loc.gov](mailto:frd@mail.loc.gov), or write to Marketing Coordinator, Federal Research Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4840.*



Louis R. Mortimer  
Chief  
Federal Research Division  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20540-4840

## PREFACE

This study provides data on the population of North Korea as of 1 January 1986. It is designed to provide a ready reference aid for those concerned with North Korean demography.

Statistical tables include vital statistics, population distribution by age cohort, sex, and marital status, and population distribution by major subdivisions and urban areas. With the exception of figures in Tables I, II, and VI, all figures are estimates.

Table I  
Total Population

Year	Total Population		Males		Females	
	Number (000's)	Average Annual Increase (%)	Number (000's)	Percent	Number (000's)	Percent
1 Dec 1953	8,491	3.7	3,982	46.9	4,509	53.1
1 Sep 1956	9,359	3.5	4,474	47.8	4,885	52.2
31 Dec 1953	10,789	2.6	5,222	48.4	5,567	51.6
1 Oct 1963	11,568	3.2	5,634	48.7	5,934	51.3
31 Dec 1965	12,408	2.5	6,068	48.9	6,340	51.1
1 Jan 1986 <sup>a</sup>	20,311	2.3	10,115	49.8	10,196	50.2

<sup>a</sup>Estimated

Note: Based on the 1962 election law of 30,000 persons per delegate, the population of North Korea approximated 13.71 million (1967), 16.23 million (1972), 17.37 million (1977), and 18.45 million (1982).

Table II  
Vital Statistics  
(per 1,000 inhabitants)

Year	Average Life Span	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Natural Increase	Less than 1 yr old (per 1,000 newborns)
1953	--	25.1	18.1	7.0	--
1956	--	31.0	17.6	13.4	56.4
1960	58.3	38.5	10.5	28.0	37.0
1963	--	42.7	12.8	29.9	--
1965	61.0	43.5	9.8	33.7	35.3
1970	66.2	44.7	7.0	37.7	22.7
1975	73.0	25.9	4.7	21.2	18.1
1980	74.0	21.8	4.5	17.3	14.2
1982	74.0	21.9	4.3	17.6	11.4
1984	74.0	--	--	--	--

Table III  
1986 Population Distribution by  
Age Cohort, and by Sex

<u>Age Cohort</u>	<u>Population (000's)</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 5	1,426	1,355	2,781
6 - 10	1,264	1,224	2,488
11 - 15	1,214	1,122	2,336
16 - 20	1,162	1,071	2,233
21 - 25	1,032	989	2,021
26 - 30	910	897	1,807
31 - 35	660	592	1,252
36 - 40	567	622	1,189
41 - 45	526	611	1,137
46 - 50	425	459	884
51 - 55	323	357	680
56 - 60	233	255	488
61 - 65	162	224	386
66 - 70	100	185	285
71 - 75	71	112	183
76 - 80	30	71	101
81+	10	50	60
Total	10,115	10,196	20,311

Table IV  
Population by  
Age Cohort, Sex, and Marital Status

<u>Age Cohort</u>	<u>Population (000's)</u>			
	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Married</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Single</u>
16 - 20	2	1,160	16	1,055
21 - 25	67	965	331	658
26 - 30	491	419	753	144
31 - 35	600	60	556	36
36 - 40	544	23	578	44
41 - 45	510	16	550	61
46 - 50	412	13	381	78
51 - 55	310	13	253	104
56 - 60	219	14	151	104
61 - 65	147	15	104	120
66 - 70	87	13	65	120
71 - 75	57	14	26	86
76 - 80	20	10	17	54
81+	5	5	4	46

Table V  
1986 Population Distribution by  
Major Subdivisions and Sex

<u>Major Subdivisions</u>	<u>Population (000's)</u>		
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Chongjin Si	404	401	805
Kaesong Si	181	179	360
Nampo Si	378	372	750
Pyongyang Si	1,460	1,405	2,865
Chagang Do	550	564	1,114
Hamgyong Namdo	1,328	1,334	2,662
Hamgyong Pukto	589	591	1,180
Hwanghae Namdo	934	992	1,926
Hwanghae Pukto	712	756	1,468
Kangwon Do	718	750	1,468
Pyongan Namdo	1,377	1,350	2,727
Pyongan Pukto	1,177	1,187	2,364
Yanggang Do	307	315	622
<hr/>			
Total	10,115	10,196	20,311



Table VI  
Urban-Rural Population

	Urban		Rural		TOTAL (000's)
	Number (000's)	Percent	Number (000's)	Percent	
1 Dec 1953	1,503	17.7	6,988	82.3	8,491
1 Sep 1956	2,714	29.0	6,645	71.0	9,359
31 Dec 1960	4,100	38.0	6,689	62.0	10,789
1 Oct 1963	5,148	44.5	6,420	55.5	11,568
1 Oct 1965	5,894	47.5	6,514	52.5	12,408
1 Jan 1986 <sup>a</sup>	13,202	65.0	7,109	35.0	20,311

<sup>a</sup>Estimated

Table VII

Urban-Rural Population Distribution by  
Major Subdivisions: 1986

<u>Major Subdivisions</u>	<u>Urban</u>		<u>Rural</u>		<u>Total</u> <u>(000's)</u>
	<u>Number</u> <u>(000's)</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>(000's)</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
Chongjin Si	605	75.2	200	24.8	805
Kaesong Si	156	43.3	204	56.7	360
Nampo Si	414	55.2	336	44.8	750
Pyongyang Si	1,697	59.2	1,168	40.8	2,865
Chagang Do	585	52.5	529	47.5	1,114
Hamgyong Namdo	1,662	62.4	1,000	37.6	2,662
Hamgyong Pukto	645	54.7	535	45.3	1,180
Hwanghae Namdo	683	35.5	1,243	64.5	1,926
Hwanghae Pukto	596	40.6	872	59.4	1,468
Kangwon Do	782	53.3	686	46.7	1,468
Pyongan Namdo	850	31.2	1,877	68.8	2,727
Pyongan Pukto	990	41.9	1,374	58.1	2,364
Yanggang Do	460	74.0	162	26.0	622
Total	10,125	49.8	10,186	50.2	20,311

Note: Urban population in this table include only residents in city central districts and contiguous areas, county centers, and workers' settlements.

Table VIII

Urban Areas and Population by  
Major Subdivisions: 1986

Major Subdivisions (City, Province, County)	Population Estimates (000's)	
	Urban Area	Total
Chongjin Si		605
Chongjin	492	
Kyongsong	30	
Muson	35	
Workers' Settlements (9)	48	
Kaesong Si		156
Kaesong	122	
Changpung	16	
Kaepung	12	
Panmun	6	
Nampo Si		414
Nampo	249	
Suburban districts:	140	
Chollima (Kangson ni)	69	
Kangso	41	
Taen	30	
Yonggang	25	
Pyongyang Si		1,697
Pyongyang	1,514	
Suburban districts:	124	
Nangnang (Wonam)	21	
Samsok (Songmun)	16	
Sunan	41	
Sungho	30	
Yokpo (Taehyon)	16	
Chunghwa	25	
Kangnam	21	
Sangwon	13	
Chagang Do		585
Kanggye Si	222	
Huichon Si	57	
Manpo Si	34	
Changgang	8	
Chasong	10	
Chonchon	30	
Chosan	13	

Chunggang	8	
Hwapyong	9	
Kopung	7	
Nangnim	10	
Sijung	7	
Songgan	23	
Songwon	4	
Tongsin	13	
Usi	5	
Wiwon	7	
Yongnim	6	
Workers' Settlements (21)	112	
Hamgyong Namdo		1,662
Hamhung Si	808	
Sinpo Si	146	
Tanchon Si	57	
Changjin	16	
Chongpyong	45	
Hamju	32	
Hochon	16	
Hongwon	47	
Iwon	35	
Kowon	33	
Kumya	37	
Nagwon	21	
Pujon	18	
Pukchong	57	
Sinchang	34	
Sinhung	19	
Toksong	10	
Yodok	8	
Yonggwang	7	
Workers' Settlements (37)	216	
Hamgyong Pukto		645
Kimchaek Si	197	
Najin Si	66	
Hoeryong	50	
Hwadae	8	
Kilchu	52	
Myongchon	6	
Onsong	21	
Orang	11	
Saebjol	6	
Sonbong	46	
Undok	38	
Yonsa	6	
Workers' Settlements (26)	138	

Hwanghae Namdo		683
Haeju Si	209	
Anak	29	
Chongdan	19	
Chaeryong	42	
Changyon	31	
Kangnyong	8	
Kwail	16	
Ongjin	39	
Pyongchon	8	
Paechon	25	
Pyoksong	30	
Samchon	19	
Sinchon	39	
Sinwon	30	
Songhwa	8	
Taetan	15	
Ullyul	15	
Unchon	17	
Yonan	30	
Yongyon	12	
Workers' Settlements (7)	42	

Hwanghae Pukto		596
Sariwon Si	184	
Songnim Si	171	
Hwangju	31	
Insan	10	
Koksan	7	
Kumchon	16	
Pyongsan	41	
Pongsan	13	
Singye	10	
Sinpyong	8	
Sohung	21	
Suan	10	
Tosan	9	
Unpa	16	
Yonsan	8	
Yontan	7	
Workers' Settlements (6)	34	

Kangwon Do		782
Wonsan Si	409	
Anbyon	33	
Changdo	6	
Chonnae	33	
Chorwon	8	
Hoeyang	21	
Ichon	21	
Kimhwa	9	

Kosan	27	
Kosong	15	
Kumgang	16	
Munchon	55	
Pangyo	8	
Pyonggang	21	
Poptong	6	
Sepo	23	
Tongchon	16	
Workers' Settlements (11)	55	
Pyongan Namdo		850
Pyongsong Si	47	
Sunchon Si	45	
Anju	67	
Sinanju	39	
Chongnam	10	
Chungsan	16	
Hoechang	20	
Kaechon	45	
Kangdong	20	
Maengsan	8	
Mundok	32	
Onchon	22	
Pyongwon	32	
Pukchang	30	
Sinyang	8	
Songchon	24	
Sukchon	38	
Taedong	8	
Taehung	11	
Tokchon	47	
Yangdok	36	
Yongwon	8	
Workers' Settlements (39)	237	
Pyongan Pukto		990
Kusong Si	60	
Sinuiju Si	313	
Changsong	8	
Cholsan	13	
Chonma	6	
Chongju	50	
Hyangsan	8	
Kujang	30	
Kwaksan	36	
Pihyon	13	
Pakchon	17	
Pyoktong	6	
Sakchu	23	
Sonchon	40	

Taecheon	30	
Taegwan	6	
Tongchang	6	
Tongnim	16	
Uiju	42	
Unjon	32	
Unsan	13	
Yomju	17	
Yongbyon	15	
Yongchon	23	
Workers' Settlements (31)	167	
Yanggang Do		460
Hyesan Si	154	
Huchang	19	
Kapsan	10	
Kimjongsuk	12	
Pungsan	12	
Pungso	6	
Paegam	12	
Pochon	7	
Samjiyon	12	
Samsu	8	
Taehongdan	6	
Unhung	11	
Workers' Settlements (37)	191	
TOTAL		10,125

### SOURCES

North Korea Economic Statistics Yearbook, 1964

Pukham Yoram, Seoul, 1966

Pukham Ch'ongnam, Seoul, 1983

The Health Statistics of the DPRK, 1983

Women of Korea, No. 2, 1985